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VENONA

Reissue(T1287)

From: SAN FRANCISCO

To: MOSCOW

No: 164

14 April 1944

To VIKTOR[1]

On 14 April at 2 a.m. the deserter LEN⁸ escaped from the ship "OLA," taking advantage of propitious "row" -- people sharing bunks and of the temporary absence from the exterior guard post of the duty seaman KhOKhLOV. It was established that LEN⁸ had already [C% left] but where exactly wasn't known. [We][a] entrusted to the boatswain MANUILOV the task of making enquiries [3 groups unrecovered]: About 11 a.m. MANUILOV met LEN⁸ leaving the house. LEN⁸ reproached MANUILOV for not dissuading him from the visit to the Soviet ship and said that while

[5 groups unrecovered]

he broke open the door of the cabin and left. LEN⁸ said that [1 group unrecovered] to the Emigration Authorities[b].

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KhARON[11]

Notes: [a] or "I" or "They."

[b] Possibly the Immigration and Naturalization Service is meant.

Comments:

[1] VIKTOR: Lt. Gen. P.M. FITIN.

[11] KhARON: Grigoriy KheJFETs, Soviet Vice-Consul in SAN FRANCISCO.

23 July 1969

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